

that. As it stands right now, the bill doesn't change the correlative rights doctrine. It simply gives the NRD board of directors that discretion and flexibility, NRD by NRD.

SENATOR DIERKS: It does not destroy the correlative rights doctrine?

SENATOR BROMM: No.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay. Thank you. The ground water irrigators doctrine, correlative rights doctrine has worked well over the years and seems to be a fair...a fair doctrine for all ground water users. I guess it looks to me like that we do destroy the correlative rights with the grandfather provision and...so I've got great difficulty with that. You can see, I think, that LB 108 would create somewhat of a class warfare among different ground water users even, not to mention the conflicts that would occur with those surface water users. (LB) 108 will create fights and conflicts. I think it will be a dream for attorneys. Trial attorneys ought to think this is the greatest piece of legislation we've seen, with all the steps that are necessary to get to a decision in a dispute and the length of time it's going to take. It would appear to me that we ought to do everything we could to prevent that from happening. I think that I'd like to go back to one of the basic premises of the bill, which, as I understand it, was to work on a problem that the Governor had with the interstate compact with Kansas, and yet we have not been able to see where this LB 108 helps the compact with Kansas. There is evidently nothing in our statutes that will allow our compact with the Columbia...or with the Republican River that's signed between Kansas and Nebraska is...currently is very safe. There's nothing in there that is going to allow us to be stepped on. Kansas people have said that they do not intend to sue Nebraska because they don't have a legal standing. Nebraskans have said the same thing. Those legal...the legal people, the water lawyers, the water hydrologists, they've all said the same thing, both in Kansas and...

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR DIERKS: ..Nebraska, we do not need 108 to protect the Republican River Compact. That's well protected and Nebraska is